



TRAFFIC ALERT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SALEM 35-9

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ROADWATCH: Week of Aug. 22 - 28

The following is a list of highway projects that may affect traffic in the 12-county Salem Transportation District during the next week. New information is noted by "###". For statewide traffic information for major roadways, dial 511 or visit www.511Virginia.org.

INTERSTATE 81

* **INTERSTATE 81 PAVING** – Weather permitting, lane closures may be in place for pavement repairs and paving on northbound and southbound I-81 in Botetourt County between mile markers 151 and 156 and between the Rockbridge County line and mile marker 170. Work will be performed during nighttime hours from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., Monday through Friday. In addition, guardrail work may cause shoulder closures during daytime hours, Monday through Friday.

* **INTERSTATE 81 PAVING** – Weather permitting, paving will impact traffic on southbound I-81 between mile markers 116 and 109 in Montgomery County during nighttime hours. The left lane will be closed between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday.

* **REMOVE INTERSTATE 81 BRIDGE PATCHING** – Work is completed.

* **INTERSTATE 81 GUARDRAIL REPAIRS** – Weather permitting, work to repair guardrail will cause shoulder and lane closures on southbound along I-81 at the following during nighttime hours on weekdays. Work is tentatively scheduled as follows:

- In Montgomery County, a left lane closure on northbound I-81 at mile marker 111.2 on Sunday, Aug. 23
- In Montgomery County, a left lane closure on southbound I-81 at mile marker 107 on Sunday, Aug. 23
- In Roanoke County, a left lane closure on northbound I-81 at mile marker 141 on Monday, Aug. 24
- In Montgomery County, a right shoulder closure on southbound I-81 at mile marker 113.6 in on Monday, Aug. 24
- In Botetourt County, a left lane closure on southbound I-81 at mile marker 170 on Tuesday, Aug. 25

* **ROUTE 636 BRIDGE OVER INTERSTATE 81 BRIDGE PAINTING** – Weather permitting, the Route 636 (Seneca Hollow) bridge over I-81 in Montgomery County will be painted. Work will cause lane closures beneath the bridge on northbound and southbound I-81 at mile marker 122.5. Expect lane closures Monday through Thursday nights from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.

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* **INTERSTATE 81 BRIDGE PATCHING** – Weather permitting, lane closures may be in place for bridge deck patching on I-81 northbound and southbound between mile marker 147 and mile marker 167. Work will be performed between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., Sunday through Thursday nights.

* **INTERSTATE 81 MOWING** – Weather permitting, crews will mow along southbound I-81 between mile markers 118 and 174 in Montgomery, Roanoke and Botetourt counties. Watch for workers and equipment along the shoulders and possible lane closures during daylight hours.

* **INTERSTATE 81 PAVEMENT MARKING** – Work to paint lines on I-81 in Pulaski and Roanoke County may cause mobile lane closures during daylight hours.

* **INTERSTATE 81 BRUSH CUTTING** – Weather permitting, crews will cut brush along northbound and southbound I-81 in Pulaski County between mile markers 87 and 105 and in Roanoke and Botetourt counties between mile markers 147 and 174. Watch for workers and equipment along the shoulders and possible lane closures during daylight hours.

ROANOKE

* **ROUTE 24 (ELM AVENUE) BRIDGE OVER I-581 REPAIRS** - Work to repair the Elm Avenue bridge over I-581 in Roanoke is underway. Work will be performed Sunday through Thursday nights between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Watch for lane closures and flaggers controlling traffic on westbound Elm Avenue while work is being performed. In addition, lane closures may be in place on northbound and southbound I-581 beneath the bridge. State Police will be on site to help control traffic. Motorists should watch for signs, flaggers and changing traffic patterns in the work zone. Estimated completion is late September.

* **REMOVE I-581/ROUTE 220 EXPRESSWAY MOWING** – Work is completed.

ROANOKE COUNTY

* **COLONIAL AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS** – Work is under way to improve the 0.5-mile section of Colonial Avenue starting just west Route 687 (Penn Forest Boulevard) and extending to Route 419. Work will include widening the travel lanes, adjusting curves, paving shoulders and constructing a roundabout at the intersection of Colonial Avenue and Penn Forest Boulevard. Intersection upgrades will be performed at Vest Drive and Girard Drive. The bridge over Mudlick Creek will be replaced with a pipe culvert. Colonial Avenue is closed to through traffic between Route 1593 (Vest Drive) and Route 1620 (Hazel Drive) in southwest Roanoke County. In addition, the intersection of Colonial Avenue and Route 687 (Penn Forest Boulevard) is closed. **Wet weather and unanticipated utility work have delayed the opening the Route 720 (Colonial Avenue) roundabout until late September.** Signs are posted detouring traffic around the closure. Estimated completion is August 2010.

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*** ROUTE 116 SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS** – Improvements at the Route 866 (Pleasant Boulevard) may cause periodic lane closures on Route 116 (Jae Valley Road). Route 116 is now open to traffic, but drivers can still expect periodic lane closures between 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

* ROUTE 117 GRADING – Work to grade shoulders along Route 117 (Peters Creek Road) may cause lane closures between Route 118 (Airport Road) and Route 1825 (Wendover Drive). In addition, grading and striping may cause shoulder closures between Airport Road and Route 1841 (Dwight Street). Drivers should watch for signs during daylight hours on weekdays.

* ROUTE 220 GRADING – Work to grade shoulders along Route 220 between Route 674 (Clearbrook Drive) and Route 789 (Rocky Mount Road) may cause shoulder closures during daylight hours on weekdays.

*** ROUTE 1166 DRAINAGE WORK** – Route 1166 (Kingsmill Drive) has reopened to traffic between Route 1164 (Stone Mill Drive) and Route 1165 (Queensmill Drive). Drainage work had previously closed the road. Additional paving is scheduled for later this fall.

* PAVING VARIOUS SUBDIVISION STREETS – Weather permitting, crews will be paving all the streets in the Andrew Lewis Place subdivision. Drivers should use caution, expect delays and watch for flaggers. Work may be performed between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays.

* ROUTE 1315 (BRIDLE LANE) UTILITY WORK – Weather permitting, utility work will cause lane closures at locations on Route 1315 (Bridge Lane) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Drivers should watch for flaggers and signs on Route 1315 on Thursday, Aug. 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. between Route 1331 (Sugarloaf Mountain Road) and Route 1330 (Hathaway Drive) and on Friday, Aug. 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Route 1323 (Carriage Drive) and Route 1325 (Sorrrell Lane).

* ROUTE 1541 CURB WORK – Weather permitting, crews will work on curbing and gutters along Route 1541 (Hunting Hills Drive) between Route 1554 and Route 1551. Drivers should watch for flaggers and possible shoulder and lane closures between 7:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays.

BEDFORD COUNTY

* MOWING (VARIOUS ROUTES) – Weather permitting, crews will mow Route 43, 122, 221, 460 and 501 in Bedford County. Watch for workers and equipment along the shoulders and possible lane closures during daylight hours on weekdays.

* ROUTE 460 AND ROUTE 221 PAVEMENT MARKING – Work to paint lines on Route 460 and Route 221 in Bedford County may cause periodic mobile lane closures during daylight hours.

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* **ROUTE 221 WIDENING** – Work is underway to widen a 2.2-mile section of Route 221 from just west of the Norfolk Southern Railroad to east of Route 663 west of Forest. The speed limit is reduced to 35 mph in this area. Traffic is reduced to one lane in each direction. **Motorists should watch for flaggers, signs and new traffic patterns.** Periodic nighttime lane closures may occur at various locations, Sunday through Thursday, between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. Work on this project will continue into late 2009.

* **ROUTE 43 PIPE REPLACEMENT** – Crews are working to replace a pipe on Route 43. Short-term lane closures will be in place during daylight hours.

* **PAVEMENT PATCHING (VARIOUS ROUTES)** – Weather permitting, crews may patch pavement on various secondary roads in Bedford County. Watch for flaggers directing traffic during daylight hours on weekdays on the following roads:

- Route 780 (Patterson Mill Road)

* **ROUTE 645 SLIDE REPAIRS** – Crews will make repairs to Route 645 (Holcomb Rock Road) due to slide repairs. Motorists should watch for lane closures during daylight hours on weekdays.

* **ROUTE 675 PIPE REPLACEMENT** – Crews are working to replace a pipe on Route 675. Short-term lane closures will be in place during daylight hours.

BOTETOURT COUNTY

* **ROUTE 220 PAVEMENT MARKING** – Weather permitting, lane and shoulder closures may be in place on weekdays during daylight hours on northbound and southbound Route 220 due to pavement marking on the newly paved entrance to Orchard Market Place. Drivers should watch for signs and expect possible delays.

* **MOWING (VARIOUS ROUTES)** – Weather permitting, crews will mow various primary roads in Botetourt County. Watch for workers and equipment along the shoulders and possible lane closures between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. on weekdays along the following routes:

- Route 220 between Route 43 and the Allegheny County line

CARROLL COUNTY

* **INTERSTATE 77 SHOULDER IMPROVEMENTS** – Crews will be cutting rumble strips along southbound I-77 between mile marker 24 and mile marker 6. Motorists should watch for mobile closures, Sunday through Thursday, between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. Message boards will alert drivers to lane closures.

* **REMOVE INTERSTATE 77 BRIDGE WORK** – Work is completed at marker 23.6 in the Poplar Camp area.

* **INTERSTATE 77 GUARDRAIL REPAIRS** – Weather permitting, guardrail repairs may cause left lane closures on northbound I-77 at mile marker 2.9 during daylight hours on weekdays. Work is tentatively scheduled for Monday, Aug. 24.

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* **INTERSTATE 77 PAVEMENT PATCHING** – Weather permitting, guardrail repairs may cause lane closures on northbound and southbound I-77 between mile markers 0 and 24 during daylight hours on weekdays. Drivers should expect possible mobile lane closures.

* **ROUTE 52 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT OVER LITTLE REED ISLAND CREEK** – A section of Route 52 is closed to through traffic due to work to replace the Route 52 bridge over Little Reed Island Creek. The bridge is located two miles north of Hillsville. The bridge is expected to be closed until sometime in November. Detours signs are in place.

* **ROUTE 58 HILLSVILLE BRIDGE WORK** – As part of the current Hillsville Bypass construction project, a change in traffic pattern is in place on Route 58 in Hillsville. The eastbound Route 58 bridge over Little Reed Island Creek is closed for reconstruction. The bridge is located near Gardner Mill Road between the west limits of Hillsville and Interstate 77. The bridge will be widened, and the riding surface replaced. Route 58 traffic is reduced to one lane in each direction and shifted into the westbound lanes for about 0.8 mile, and the speed limit is reduced to 35 mph.

* **ROUTE 58 HILLSVILLE BYPASS CONSTRUCTION** – Drivers on Route 58, Route 52, Route 703 (Gardner's Mill Road) and Route 780 (Howlett Street) can expect periodic lane closures with flaggers directing traffic between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on weekdays. The speed limit on Route 52 is reduced to 25 mph starting 0.1 mile south of Archa Street (Route 1007) in Hillsville and extending to 0.5 mile north of the Hillsville town limits in Carroll County. Drivers should watch for new traffic patterns around the Route 58 and Gardner's Mill Road intersection. The speed limit on Route 58 starting 0.7 mile west of Gardner's Mill Road is reduced to 35 mph. The speed limit on Route 58 (Danville Pike) west of Hillsville between Route 669 (Spring Hollow Road) and Route 670 (Snake Creek Road) is reduced to 45 mph. The speed limit on Route 58 on the east end of the project is reduced to 35 mph from just west of Route 699 (Spring Hollow Road) to Route 666 (Merrimack Road). Drivers should expect possible delays.

CRAIG COUNTY

* **ROUTE 42 MOWING** – Weather permitting, crews will mow on Route 42 between Route 622 and the Giles County line. Drivers should watch for shoulder and possible lane closures on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

* **ROUTE 311 BRIDGE OVER PAINT BANK BRANCH** – The road has reopened to traffic. Watch for possible periodic lane closures on weekdays between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. until early September.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

* **ROUTE 40 PAVING** – Weather permitting, lane closures may be in place on Route 40 at Penhook between Route 946 and the Pittsylvania County line. Flaggers and pilot trucks will control traffic during daylight hours. Drivers should expect delays.

* **ROUTE 116 SHOULDER MAINTENANCE** – Crews will be performing shoulder maintenance on Route 116 (Jubal Early Highway). Motorists should watch for mobile lane closures between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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*** ROUTE 122 & ROUTE 116 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS** – Work is underway to improve the intersection of Route 122 and Route 116. Work will include the installation of a new traffic signal. Temporary lane closures may be in place at various locations in the work zone. Motorists should watch for signs and flaggers and use caution in the area. Estimated completion is November 2009.

*** ROUTE 220 PAVING** – Weather permitting, lane closures will be in place on northbound Route 220 between the Franklin Heights interchange and the Blackwater bridge. Drivers should watch for lane closures during daylight hours.

* MOWING (VARIOUS ROUTES) – Weather permitting, watch for flaggers, possible lane and shoulder closures on various secondary roads in Franklin County due to mowing or brush cutting. Crews may direct traffic at times during daylight hours. Watch for signs. Mowing is scheduled along these routes:

- Route 678 (Truman Hill Road)
- Route 684 (Boonbrook Road)

* PAVEMENT PATCHING (VARIOUS ROUTES) – Crews will be patching pavement between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on weekdays. Watch for flaggers directing traffic and lane closures on the following roads:

- Route 619 (Fanny Cook Road)
- Route 619 (Pleasant Hill Road)
- Route 646 (Doe Run Road)
- Route 646 (Truevine Road)
- Route 715 (Chestnut Mountain Road)
- Route 735 (Retreat Road)
- Route 863 (Rakes Road)
- Route 902 (Double Branch Road)
- Route 969 (Danville Turnpike)

* DITCH OR SHOULDER MAINTENANCE (VARIOUS ROUTES) – Crews will be performing ditch or shoulder maintenance at various locations. Motorists should watch for lane closures on weekdays during daylight hours on the following routes:

- Route 619 (Sontag Road)
- Route 697 (Wirtz Road)
- Route 736 (Madcap Road)
- Route 812 (Jamestown Road)

* PIPE REPLACEMENT (VARIOUS ROUTES) – Crews will be replacing pipes at various locations. Motorists should watch for lane closures on weekdays during daylight hours on Route 601 (Dudley Amos Road).

HENRY COUNTY

* ROUTE 220 PAVING (RIDGEWAY) – Weather permitting, paving on northbound Route 220 between Route 87 and the Route 58 Bypass in the Ridgeway area will cause lane closures between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays.

*** ROUTE 220 BUSINESS BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** – Work to replace the Route 220 Business bridge over the railroad tracks is underway. The bridge is located near the Route 87 intersection in Ridgeway. Route 220 Business is closed from Route 639 to Mica Road. Motorists should seek alternate routes around the closure.

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*** ROUTE 701 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT** – The Route 701 (Field Avenue) bridge over the Smith River is closed to traffic. The old, iron bridge is located in Fieldale between Route 57 and Route 682 (River Road). The bridge is closed, so it can be demolished and replaced. Traffic is being detoured between Route 701 and Route 57 onto Route 682 and Route 609. To improve traffic flow and reduce congestion, the traffic pattern on the detour route at the intersection of Route 609 (South Daniels Creek Road) and Route 682 has been changed. Traffic on Route 609 is no longer required to stop at its intersection with Route 682. Instead, new stop signs have been installed requiring Route 682 traffic to stop at this intersection. This week, flagging operations will be utilized on Route 57 adjacent to the old bridge on either side of the railroad tracks. Estimated completion is November 2010.

*** ROUTE 619 DAMAGED CULVERT** – Route 619 (Lawrence Drive) between Route 57 (Chatham Road) and Route 647 (Mountain Valley Road) is closed to through traffic. No estimate for reopening the road is available at this time.

*** ROUTE 650 RECONSTRUCTION** – Work is under way to reconstruct Route 650 (Irisburg Road) between Route 697 (Mitchell Road) and Route 625 (Poplar Fork Road). Drivers should watch for flaggers controlling traffic between 7 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

*** ROUTE 114 WIDENING** – Work continues to widen a section of Route 114 (Peppers Ferry Road) in Christiansburg. The section of Route 114 extends between Stafford Street and Chrisman Mill Road near New River Valley Mall. Work will include widening Route 114 from two lanes to five, with two through lanes in each direction and a center turn lane. Traffic has been switched onto a new section of roadway and drivers should expect possible lane closures between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Shoulder closures are in place. Flaggers may direct traffic during daylight hours

*** ROUTE 460 BYPASS MOWING** – Weather permitting, crews will mow along the eastbound and westbound Route 460 Bypass. Watch for workers and equipment along the shoulders and possible lane closures during daylight hours.

PATRICK COUNTY

* ROUTE 680 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT – Route 680 (Pole Bridge Road) is closed to through traffic. The second bridge west of Route 687 (Pleasant View Drive) over Pole Bridge Creek is being replaced. Work is anticipated to be complete and the road re-opened to traffic by Friday, Aug. 28, weather permitting. Detour signs will be in place directing traffic to take Route 57 and follow Route 687.

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